

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 DRC-01 /117 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6117

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, KS

SUBJ: CHRISTIANS AND STUDENTS CONTINUE ANTI-GOVERNMENT
PROTESTS

REF: SEOUL 6316

1. CHRISTIANS AND STUDENTS ARE CONTINUING TO PARTICIPATE
IN ANTI-GOVERNMENT PROTESTS, FOCUSING ON DEMANDS FOR
RELEASE OF PERSONS CONVICTED UNDER PRESIDENTIAL EMERGENCY
MEASURES.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS, ON SEPT 24 IN WONJU, 300 CATHOLICS
STAGED DEMONSTRATION IN FRONT OF CHURCH FOR 25 MINUTES
BEFORE POLICE ARRIVED TO DISPERSE THEM.
PLACARD CARRIED BY PROTESTERS DEMANDED RELEASE OF BISHOP
CHI. ON SAME DAY IN SUWON, 300 PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PEOPLE
FROM ALL OVER KOREA ALSO DEMONSTRATED.

3. MEDIA IS GIVING LOW KEY COVERAGE TO EWHA WOMEN'S
UNIVERSITY SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN CALLING FOR ROKG TO
RELEASE STUDENTS SENTENCED BY EMERGENCY MEASURES
COURTS-MARTIAL. MEETINGS REPORTEDLY WERE HELD ON
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CAMPUS SEPTEMBER 23-24.

4. DURING MONDAY MEETING (REFTEL), PRESS REPORTS STUDENTS ADOPTED RESOLUTION BY VOICE VOTE CALLING FOR ROKG TO RELEASE FELLOW STUDENTS FROM JAIL. IN MEETING AFTER CHAPEL HOUR, RESOLUTIONS WERE MADE DEMANDING FOLLOWING:

(A) THAT GOVERNMENT GUARANTEE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS;

(B) THAT ROKG STOP "ARRESTS AND TORTURE OF CITIZENS;"

(C) THAT IT ENSURE FREE CAMPUS ATMOSPHERE; AND

(D) THAT ROKG SHOULD MAKE "PERMANENT END TO GOVERNMENTAL CONTROL OF PRESS."

5. STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF EWHA UNIVERSITY CONTINUED CAMPAIGN INTO FOLLOWING DAY, REPORTEDLY COLLECTING AT LEAST 540 SIGNATURES ON RESOLUTION CALLING FOR RELEASE OF STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS CONVICTED OF VIOLATING EMERGENCY MEASURES. AFTER PRAYER MEETING IN WHICH ESTIMATED THREE THOUSAND STUDENTS TOOK PART, PRESIDENT OF ASSOCIATION, LEE YONG-HWA, 23, REPORTEDLY SAID THAT STUDENTS CANNOT REMAIN INDIFFERENT TO SUFFERING OF CONVICTED STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS. PRESS ALSO NOTED THAT THREE UNIDENTIFIED STUDENTS WERE PICKED UP BY POLICE FOLLOWING THIS MEETING BUT WERE LATER RELEASED.
ERICSON

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